

After I sent the newsletter to be printed, I got this news release from Tom.

TOM/DKH MERGER

Sounds like another Wall Street story but it has happened in the fractional currency field - a merger of two of the top collections in the field. Apparently no anti-trust review was necessary due to the highly competitive nature of the hobby. Although not a complete type set by Friedberg #, this collection may be one of the most extensive currently established. Previously, the MRF collection held this distinction until it was sold in January 1997. The transaction was privately negotiated and no financial terms will be disclosed.

The extensive holding of rare essay, experimental and high-grade regular issue notes were the highlight of the DKH collection. In all, it had just over 600 pieces that had been collected by noted fractional collector Doug Hales for 35+ years. This number included 230+ regular issue pieces noted for their quality and the extensive number of paper and color varieties. Additionally, it possessed 40 experimentals, 36 essays, 36 ad notes, 19 inverts, 5 postage currency pattern coins, a double denomination experimental note, magic wallets, etc. The merged collection has close to 1200 notes and related collectible pieces and through extensive efforts, has been culled over for duplicates and will probably maintain 900+ after divestitures. There will be a fixed price list walking around in TOM's back pocket at Memphis 2000. All outstanding pedigree listings ending in DKH should now be updated to end in TOM.



Wonder if his desk looks like this now?

Dear fellow members of the FCCB

Greetings. It's finally a reality.

May thirty-first 2000 marks the 6-year anniversary of my research into Postage Currency pattern coins and the beginning of my Postage Currency research collection. The book I have just completed entitled: United States Pattern Postage Currency Coins, a survey of U S pattern Postage Currency 10 cent coins of 1863 and the related issues dated 1868 and 1869, is complete and at the book binders right now being assembled and bound. The anticipated delivery date to me is June 12th.

The perfect bound (glued and stitched) book which is 234 pages with more than 100 enlarged, mostly color photographs of Postage Currency coins, is printed in easy to read 12 point type on 8 by 11 inch bright white paper.

My research has led to many discoveries that I have revealed for the first time regarding these historic coins and the method in which they were manufactured. I have disproved many Judd classifications and have added some new classifications. I have scientifically tested 56 individual coins within this series by scanning electron microscope with energy dispersive x-ray. One-third of the 56 slabbed coins that I tested were incorrectly attributed by the grading services. You won't believe what I have found!

I chart all the varieties and offer a concordance to reveal where the similarities and / or the dissimilarities of cataloging occur.

I microscopically sequence and picture the unique dies cracks progressions. This has led to the discovery, among many other things, that the coins dated 1868 were actually struck in 1863!

I have chronologically sequenced in 41 pages, 576 auction catalog entries from 1864 to 2000 and show many provenances through a numerical identification system for each of the 576 entries and each divided into its own group by type.

The Glossary that I authored for USPATTERNS.COM is included and is expanded in areas that more closely align with the Postage Currency coins.

Postage Currency coins are related in many ways to Postage Currency and Fractional Currency Notes. The Mint's misinterpreting that Congress had authorized Postage Currency notes, not coins, mistakenly led to the first Federal token coinage, Postage Currency coins.

Douglas Winter and Coin World have given me the right to reprint in its entirety, a three part series that appeared in Coin World in 1985. If you have any interest in the history of numismatics during the Civil War years, then you will not want to miss what Doug and I have presented in 43 pages.

Due to the very high cost of printing, I will be producing only 110 perfect bound numbered copies of my book. Forty of the 110 have already been spoken for.

The remaining 70 copies are available on a first come, first served basis. My published price is \$145 per copy, but, for our membership and for a limited time only, I will offer the remaining copies to the first 70 respondents of this letter for \$125 ppd., per copy.

Please make your check payable to:

David Cassel

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